## Come

#### Jesus Walks on Water

And in the fourth watch of the night, he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." MATTHEW, CHAPTER 14 25-33 (ESV)

Pope Benedict XVI reflected on this episode in an Angelus address (August 7, 2011):

The sea symbolizes this life and the instability of the visible world; the storm points to every kind of trial or difficulty that oppresses human beings. The boat, instead, represents the Church, built by Christ and steered by the Apostles. Jesus wanted to teach the disciples to bear life's adversities courageously, trusting in God.

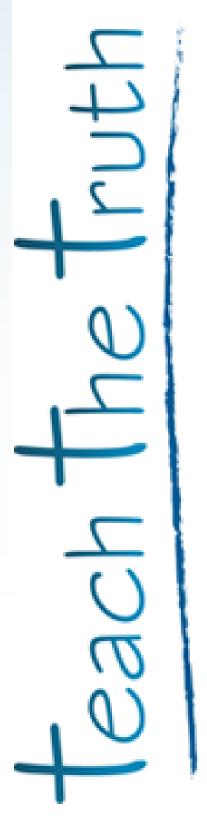
Peter walks on the water, not by his own effort but rather through divine grace in which he believes. And when he was smitten by doubt, when he no longer fixed his gaze on Jesus but was frightened by the gale, when he failed to put full trust in the Teacher's words, it means that he was interiorly distancing himself from the Teacher and so risked sinking in the sea of life.

So it is also for us: if we look only at ourselves we become dependent on the winds and can no longer pass through storms on the waters of life.

Focus your gaze on Jesus. It is so critical not to let the storms of social unrest fomented by the devil to divert your attention. All our trust must be placed on God. No matter what happens next, St. Paul tells us that nothing will separate us from the love of God. Nothing.

Knowing that the challenge ahead in funding Catholic education will only be heightened by the pandemic, we want you to know that we cannot thank you enough for your prayers and financial support. We are not discouraged as this endeavor is placed in God's hands. **Christ is Risen, Indeed!** Thank you!

Please pray for the ongoing success of Catholic schools. If you are in a position to support us financially or know anyone who would be interested in providing support, direct them to teachthetruthfoundation.org. Your support is allowing children to attend Catholic schools who otherwise would not be able to do so. Please note that those you help are extremely grateful! Thank you for what you have done to respond to Christ's command to teach all nations through your prayers and financial support.



#### Teach the Truth

Teach the Truth Foundation provides tuition aid and financial support to Catholic Schools so that all who seek to attend a Catholic school can do so regardless of financial need.

Established in 2014, we invite all those who feel called to aid in the mission to support Catholic Education in Western Pennsylvania to partner with us. Our goal is to ensure that the Catholic Schools continue to be an option to all parents of school age children.

Catholic Schools have a wonderful legacy of providing an educational experience of outstanding quality with the foundational focus being Christ, the source of all true knowledge. The mission of Catholic Schools has been critical to the development of the United States and is even more critical today.

# St. Pio of Pietrelcina

### Pray and Don't Worry

The body of Padre Pio, the stigmatist, lies incorrupt. If you have a moment, it is worth Googling to see this miracle. The wonders that accompanied this Saint are God's way of highlighting the message that was entrusted to this saint.

St. Pio is a great saint of the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. He spent endless hours in the confessional, and his Masses were a display of reverence. During Mass, he felt the pains of our Lord's passion.

A well known saying of Padre Pio is Pray and don't worry. It is clear that his strong faith and trust in God's mercy were rooted in his devotion to the Holy Mass and to Confession. For these sacraments are the means our Lord left us to live in communion with Him while on earth.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the height and summit of the Christian life. Here the Son's Passion and Resurrection are perpetuated to this very day, and it is at Mass that we receive and participate in the divine life. Jesus reminds us that if you do not eat His flesh or drink His Blood, you have no life within you.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the means by which our human condition of sin is continually wiped away and our souls are made a suitable tabernacle for us to receive Our Lord in a way we cannot even fathom.

Our Catholic schools allow students to live a sacramental life and to pray daily - a fact that cannot be underestimated!

In the midst of the present struggle to sustain Catholic education, in the Church, and the world itself, we have to remember that God has a plan! Isaiah tells us (Ch. 55:11) [My word] shall not return to me empty, but shall do what pleases me, achieving the end for which I sent it." We proceed confidently in this prophet's words!

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Please find enclo	sed a gift of: \$
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